

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed March 28, 2005, the Examiner noted that claims 1-16 were pending, and rejected claims 1-16. No claims have been amended, canceled or added and, thus, in view of the forgoing claims 1-16 remain pending for reconsideration which is requested. No new matter has been added. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as unpatentable over Stoltz et al., European Patent Application No. EP - 1,043,648 A2 (hereinafter "Stoltz"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Stoltz discloses an "authentication manager and authentication modules [which] are responsible for ensuring the legitimacy of a user and associating/controlling access to a session(s) for a user . . . Authentication can include any mechanism that verifies the identity of the user to the system" (Stoltz, paragraph 89). Stoltz further discloses an "[a]uthentication module 240 [which] sends a challenge to network terminal 202 to verify the authenticity of the user . . . If the response to the challenge is as expected, the user is verifies to authentication module 240" (Stoltz, paragraph 93). In other words, Stoltz discloses a user authentication or login process which controls a user's access to a system on a network by requesting a user identification and consulting an authentication database for determining whether to allow the user to access the system.

Therefore the rejection is respectfully traversed because Stoltz fails to teach or suggest at least the features of:

- (1) an IA terminal user storing unit storing IA terminal information including an IA terminal identifier for identifying the IA terminal, service information including the kind of service to be received, and user registration information including user information concerning the user who receives the service;
- (2) a user registration information collation unit collating the user registration information received by the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system with the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit; and
- (3) an automatic registration unit obtaining the user registration information which has not been collated by the user registration information collation unit from the IA terminal by means of the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user

management system and registering said information in the IA terminal user storing unit.

As the Examiner correctly noted on page 3, lines 2-3 of the Office Action, Stoltz discloses an authentication database which contains "user and session information that can be accessed by authentication manager 204 or authentication modules 240" (Stoltz, page 12, paragraph 90, lines 29-30). The authentication data base consists of a userID (i.e. a user name), a secret ("128-bit value"), a PIN (i.e. user password), a sessionHost ("the computational service provider", i.e. the server hosting the session), a sessionPort ("identifies the port . . . for communicating with session manager 206") and a sessionID ("[notifies the] session manager 206 of the users location at the network terminal") (see Stoltz, page 12, paragraphs 91-92). Thus, Stoltz provides a user authorization process with a user authentication database which compares a user's login information with user authentication information in an authentication database.

In a non-limiting example, the present invention teaches an apparatus and method for simplifying the registration of an Internet appliance terminal, such as an Internet TV, a microwave oven, or any device which is designed to receive various kinds of services via the Internet, when the Internet appliance is turned on for the very first time. The registration of an Internet appliance may require, for example, information about the Internet Appliance itself, which could include, the model number, the type or settings of the internet/network connection of the Internet appliance, or the type of service the internet appliance is to receive, as well as personal information of the user registering the Internet appliance, which could include, the users home address, email address or phone number, for example. Therefore, Stoltz fails to teach or suggest "an IA terminal user storing unit **storing IA terminal information** including an **IA terminal identifier** for identifying the IA terminal, **service information including the kind of service to be received**, and **user registration information** including user information concerning the user who receives the service" of claim 1.

Stoltz discloses that "[w]hen session manager 206 is notified by authentication manger 204 that the user is connected to network terminal 202, session manager 206 notifies the user's session (i.e., the services that comprise a session)" (Stoltz, page 9, paragraph 59, lines 15-17). In other words, the authentication manager, after authenticating a user's login, sends a message to the session manager which starts the user's session. The Examiner (on page 3, lines 9-15 of the Office Action) compared the session manager working together with the authentication manager with the " user registration information collation unit" of claim 1. In a non-limiting example, the user registration information collation unit could receive various types of

registration data and would examine the newly received registration data to determine if, when added together with the previously received registration data in the IA terminal user storing unit (if any were previously present), would include all the data required to complete the registration of a first time user of the Internet Appliance. Thus, Stoltz fails to teach or suggest the feature of "a user registration information collation unit collating the user registration information received by the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system with the user registration information stored in the IA terminal user storing unit" of claim 1.

Stoltz discloses "[t]he authentication manager and authentication modules are responsible for ensuring the legitimacy of a user and associating/controlling access to a session(s) for a user" (Stoltz, page 12, paragraph 89, lines 23-24). The Examiner (on page 3 line 16 through page 4 line2 of the office action) compared the authentication module and authentication manager with the "automatic registration unit" of claim 1. However, Stoltz fails to teach or suggest the feature of "an automatic registration unit obtaining the user registration information **which has not been collated by the user registration information collation unit**" of claim 1. In a non-limiting example, the present invention teaches obtaining data required for completing the registration of an Internet appliance by requesting the registration data still missing after a collation by the user registration information collation unit. Thus, Stoltz fails to teach or suggest the feature of **"an automatic registration unit obtaining the user registration information which has not been collated by the user registration information collation unit** from the IA terminal by means of the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system and registering said information in the IA terminal user storing unit" of claim 1

Furthermore, Stoltz fails to teach or suggest "registering said information in the IA terminal user storing unit". In a non-limiting example, registration data which was not previously contained in the IA terminal user storing unit would be requested by the "automatic registration unit" and stored in the "IA terminal user storing unit" so, for example, the next time the user registered an Internet Appliance, the previously missing registration data would already be contained in the "IA terminal user storing unit" thereby simplifying the registration process. Thus, Stoltz fails to teach or suggest the feature of "an automatic registration unit obtaining the user registration information which has not been collated by the user registration information collation unit from the IA terminal by means of the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system **and registering said information in the IA terminal user storing unit**" as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that Stoltz fails to teach or suggest the above mentioned features of claim 1. The applicants respectfully request reconsideration of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). Furthermore, independent claim 9 contains features similar to those of claim 1, but with varying scope. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 9 contains material patentably distinct from Stoltz.

Stoltz neither explicitly or implicitly teaches nor suggests the above-identified portions of independent claims 1 and 9. Because Stoltz does not teach or suggest the features as discussed above, claims 1 and 9 contain patentable subject matter. Therefore dependent Claims 2-8 and 10-16, which contain all the features of the independent claim those claims respectively depend upon, plus additional features not disclosed by the prior art, should not be rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a). In addition, the dependent claims call for other features not taught or suggested by the prior art. For example, claim 3 calls for a machine table, a subscriber table and an affinity table. These features are not found in the prior art. For such additional reasons, it is submitted that the dependent claims are patentable over the prior art.

CONCLUSION


It is submitted that the claims are not taught, disclosed or suggested by the prior art. The claims are therefore in a condition suitable for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

If any further fees, other than and except for the issue fee, are necessary with respect to this paper, the U.S.P.T.O. is requested to obtain the same from deposit account number 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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